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United States Government Accountability Office
Washington, DC 20548

June 23, 2009

The Honorable Christopher J. Lee
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Lee:

Thank you for your letter of June 5, 2009, jointly signed by Representatives Brian M. Higgins and Louise M. Slaughter, requesting that the Government Accountability Office review a number of issues concerning commercial pilot training and certification programs. Shortly after receiving your letter, we received a similar request from Chairman James L. Oberstar and Ranking Republican Member John L. Mica, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Chairman Jerry F. Costello and Ranking Member Thomas E. Petri, Subcommittee on Aviation.

GAO accepts your request as work that is within the scope of its authority. As discussed with your staff, GAO plans to combine the requests into one engagement. We plan to initiate this work in about two months when it is expected that staff with the required skills will be available. The requests have been assigned to Ms. Katherine A. Siggerud, Managing Director, Physical Infrastructure. Ms. Siggerud or a member of her team will be in contact with Mr. Jeff Freeland to discuss the requests, and options for helping you meet your needs. As applicable, we will also be in contact with the cognizant Inspector General's office to ensure that we are not duplicating efforts. If an issue arises during this coordination, we will consult with you regarding its resolution.

If you have questions please contact Ms. Siggerud at 202-512-6570 or Ms. Rosa Harris, Assistant Director, Congressional Relations at 202-512-9492.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph Dawn
Managing Director
Congressional Relations